From the Principal...

Thank you to all students, parents & staff who supported Variety Night on 20 May. It was a wonderful evening of student performances in song, music, dance and drama. The SRC were excellent in selling refreshments to raise money for our “Hands Across the Ocean” initiative.

This was followed on 22 May by an excellent concert and afternoon tea for our International Students and others from our region’s schools (see full report inside).

Our next parent/teacher night is 20 June for Years 7 and 9. Letters have already been distributed to make on-line bookings.

Hope to see you at the next P&C Meeting on 19 June where the focus is on ‘Careers’ and ‘Improving Our School Grounds’.

Mia Kumar
ENGLISH NEWS

ABC TV’S Q AND A SPECIAL WITH BILL GATES – BURWOOD GIRLS WERE THERE!

Seven Year 9 students from BGHS recently ventured off in a maxi cab to the temporary Q&A studio at the University of NSW. After a long trip and an extensive wander through the giant library we were finally squished by a hoard of impatient people waiting to see Bill Gates.

Bill Gates, the richest man on Earth and also founder of Microsoft and generous philanthropist was called upon to answer some pre-picked questions from the 900 members of the audience while on his 18 hour visit to Australia.

We watched the workings that went behind producing a show like this and listened to Bill Gate’s opinions on his current preoccupation of giving away his money to help various health and medical campaigns as well as his ideas about the future of the world.

When the recording finished, we waited for our maxi cab in the gentle rain which was another highlight. When the cab arrived we dug out our lunch and debriefed.

We returned to school half an hour late and then returned home to continue with our lives.

By Lily Wilson and Vicky Lin

YEAR 10 GENRE STUDY – COMEDY

10EB have been having a laugh examining the genre of Comedy. Starting with the comedies of Ancient Greece, they have been tracing the course of humour through history.

This photo features Emily Luu and Rika Kelso exploring the Medieval Italian tradition Commedia dell’Arte.

BOORI ‘MONTY’ PRYOR VISITS YEAR 7

Boori Monty Pryor - Australian children's laureate - Aboriginal education/author - entertained Year 7 with his hilarious but message-full stories about friends, families and being aware of the people and their stories around you! Year 7 and those teachers lucky enough to attend laughed pretty well non-stop for over an hour.

There is an interactive web site to which we'll be adding our voice as an ongoing learning experience.

Ingrid Benjamin, English Faculty

CULTURAL TOUR OF ITALY

During the last holidays a group of 20 girls and three amazing teachers set off to Italy. Over 18 days the group travelled through many different towns including Milan, Verona, Venice, Florence, Pisa, Siena, Rome, Pompeii, Sorrento and Capri. In Florence we had the chance to attend an Italian language school for four lessons of three hours each.

Each day we got the chance to see some amazing things; such as the Leaning Tower of Pisa (which actually

Some girls wore 1920s ‘flapper’ headbands and Mr Dodshon and Ms Lazos dressed as Jay Gatsby and Nick Carraway with a green suit and a raffish scarf to reflect the fashion of the times. The movie was well received and certainly added to our understanding of the mood and characters of this classic text.

Mark Dodshon, English Faculty

THE GREAT GATSBY COMES TO BURWOOD

HSC Advanced English students who are studying F. Scott Fitzgerald’s famous novel were able to walk to the local Event Cinemas recently to catch the latest cinematic version of The Great Gatsby by Australia’s Baz Luhman.

Year 12 students prepare to see the new Gatsby movie

Year 9 students at UNSW for the Bill Gates edition of ABC TV’s Q and A program
When in Rome, dress as the Ancient Romans do!

The Spanish Steps in Rome

Verona (Romeo & Juliet): Legend says rubbing Juliet’s statue brings good fortune!

A SURRY HILLS ADVENTURE

The Year 10 Field Study to Object Gallery & Surry Hills was a jam packed day that was a great taster of the area. From a designer workshop, visits to galleries in converted spaces and walking through graffiti murals in laneways, students were curious explorers of an area that has gone through great change and of wonderful architectural interest.

The highlight of the day was definitely the fantastic workshop with Eastern Weft designer Samorn Sanixay. During this workshop, students had the opportunity to use pomegranates, onions, marigolds, 5 year old violet flowers, turmeric and a plethora of different leaves and foliage to make their own natural dyes. The Year 10 students enthusiastically crushed, smashed and painted these great colours from the dyes onto a silk woven scarf that was beautifully hand-woven by Laotian women in a cooperative set up by Samorn to provide sustainable livelihoods for some exceptionally skilled young female weavers.

The students’ gorgeous and expressive hand-dyed silk scarf will be sold at the Workshopped store in Surry Hills (their first designer collaboration!) and proceeds will go towards an organisation that supports women in textiles.

Amy Yongsiri, Creative Arts Faculty

YEAR 7 FIELD STUDY TO TARONGA ZOO

On 29 May, Year 7 went on an excursion to Taronga Zoo in the city. This was our Science field study day as we were learning about classification.

When we got there, our class 7D had a lesson with a zookeeper, Lex. She explained the classification of animals and the important categories such as monotremes, marsupials, endotherms, ectoderms and placental
mammals. Lex showed us some animals such as frogs, stick insects, snakes and even a quokka!

After our lesson, we were free to explore the zoo and we were able to go wherever we wanted.

Sanshea and I went all over the zoo, but we didn’t visit any of the native animals as we wanted to see animals from around the world. We visited the snow leopards, zebras, elephants, monkeys, birds, seals, tigers, leopards, meerkats, reptiles, giraffes and penguins. We had a worksheet to fill out about the classification of animals so we had to complete it as we were visiting the animals.

Year 7 had a great time. My favourite animals were the giraffes and the meerkats and Sanshea’s favourite animals were the snow leopards and the vulture. After we finished exploring, we caught the bus back to school & went home.

By Jasmine Bortolin and Sanshea Mendes, 7D

ITALIAN FORUM – YEAR 8 FIELD STUDY
On 29 May, Year 8 Italian students went on a fun excursion to the Italian Forum in Leichhardt.

For the first part of the day, we learnt about Italian history such as Italian migration to Australia and their settlement in Leichhardt. We then watched an Italian movie called ‘Red Like the Sky’. It was about a young boy named Mirco who becomes blind due to an accident. He goes to a school for the blind and his teacher discovers his amazing talent for recording and working with sound. It is a sad movie but has a beautiful ending.

At 11am we left for the train station. We hopped on the train and got off at Petersham station and walked to the Forum. At the Forum we went to a restaurant called La Giara and had garlic bread, pizza and pasta. The food was absolutely delicious. Once we were done, we went over to the gelato shop and all ordered gelato which was divine. We then went back to school. All in all it was a great day.

By Huma Rana, Year 8

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AFTERNOON TEA AND CONCERT
On 22 May, BGHS International Students hosted our first Afternoon Tea and Concert for other International Students in our area. Our Years 7-12 girls worked collaboratively to cater for our international guests.

Ms Kumar welcomed our guests and introduced our Korean Community Liaison Officer, Maria Hong, our Chinese Community Liaison Officer, Lettie Kwong and our Korean teacher Qeefa An. Our beautiful Korean traditional Fan Dancers performed once again, along with our Year 12 singers, Bonnie McLean, Julie Ryu, Sonia Chan, Jenny Chen, Susan Liang and Nancy Tang. Georgia Sallybanks of Year 10 amazed us by singing her own composition, as she accompanied herself on piano. There were also performances from some of our guest International students from Georges River College Senior Campus. Bohan Shao played flute and piano, while Iranian student Mahan Ghobadi finished the concert with his fabulous rhythmic Tonbak drumming.

We wish to thank Ms Vecchiet for her delicious catering and supervision over this feast. We also want to thank Ms Patonay and her Year 9 girls who looked after our guests so well and thanks also to our International Crew: Lydia Parker, Jenny Konstan and Meni Theodoropoulos.
I wish to send a BIG thanks to our own International students for their efforts to make this a memorable day for all of us, from the shoppers to the dumpling chefs, from the announcers to the performers. We are already planning our next function!

Janice Raynor, International Students Coordinator

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YEAR 8 STARR DAY

A very big thank you to all students who attended Year 8 STARR Day. Your cooperation throughout the day was excellent. Ms Kalogeropoulos and I would like to congratulate all students on the effort applied in being involved in all activities throughout the day. India from the Butterfly Foundation presented an informative and insightful PowerPoint on Body Image. It appears that all students enjoyed the interactive activities run by Life Lessons. All presenters were highly impressed by the quality of the discussion and role play held during these activities. A special thank you to the Year 10 PASS class for running the physical activity session in the afternoon which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Olga Dalageorgos, Year 8 Adviser

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TAS NEWS

Once again some terrific events and goings-on have happened in TAS over the past few weeks!

YEAR 7 & 8 TECHNOLOGY are moving on to their second rotation for this year. They will now be experiencing new and different materials. We are looking forward to some high quality completed projects as were achieved in their first rotation.

YEAR 10 FIELD STUDY DAY on 29 May was a great success for the TAS Faculty. There has been lots of positive feedback from the girls, especially since they had a choice of a number of interesting and creative workshops.

SUBJECT CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to everyone who has paid their daughter’s TAS Subject Contributions either in full or in instalments. It has been greatly appreciated. A friendly reminder that installment 3 is due Term 3, Week 4 – Friday 9 August. Contributions are payable at the Front Office. If you ever have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9747 3355.

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WOOLWORTH ‘EARN AND LEARN’ – 2013

As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. This has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We are now at the important stage where Points Sheets are collected and lodged. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem, so this week please send in your Earn & Learn Points Sheets and any loose stickers you may have, to the TAS Faculty. Remember to check your handbag, car glove box or they may be stuck to the fridge. Every little bit helps! Thanks again for your support.

If you have any questions please contact Ms Patonay.

Rosemary Patonay, Head Teacher TAS

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PREFECTS REPORT

Margot Alais & Bella Bradley, Year 12 Prefects

On 30 May we hosted our afternoon tea and invited the leaders of 24 schools to attend. In the course of the afternoon we met new people and exchanged ideas about the role of prefects in all the different schools. We received a lot of positive feedback about this event. Our thanks go to Ms Urbano, Ms Patonay and Mrs Tairi.

We are looking forward to our barbecue on Thursday 20 June at lunchtime in order to raise funds for the Captains’ Project. We look forward to everyone’s support and hope to see you there.

We appreciate your ongoing efforts to be safe when crossing the roads after school. We wish everyone a safe holiday, and Year 12 – study hard!

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DEBATING

On 7 June, Year 11 debated Newtown PAHS. Although not victorious on this occasion, our students benefitted from the experience. After many debating competitions, the Year 11 students are looking forward to concentrating on their senior studies.

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KNOCKOUT NETBALL

Another netball knockout season is over - too soon really! The Opens Knockout netball team proceeded straight to Round 2 and played an impressive second round game.

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Ingrid Benjamin, Debating Coordinator

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against Concord winning 60-10. We ultimately fell afoul of a tough third round draw against Turramurra High (pictured). However, as always, all team members played exceptionally well and a good time was had by all. Congratulations Riley, Rika, Natalie, Lucy, Kira, Claire, Amy, Hannah and Mia and good luck next year!

*Georgia Valis, Opens Netball Knockout Captain*

**SPORT REPORT**

It has been a very busy first half of the year in the world of sport here at BGHS. A mixed bag of hot days and pouring rain, cancelled Cross Country runs, running in the fog and mud. But as we all know, BGHS students soldier on and are to be commended for their commitment to achieving their best in all areas of representative sport.

**SWIMMING**

The BGHS Swimming Carnival was a wonderful whole-school experience for all students but especially Year 7. Best Dress and Best Cheer points were highly supported and the house patrons and house captains are to be congratulated on their efforts. The final result of KURRAJONG winning the carnival was a wonderful result.

Many girls travelled to Lane Cove pool and competed at the Northern Suburbs Zone Carnival. There were many outstanding personal achievements but the most impressive display was from ALL of the Age relay teams who won every race. Olivia D’Agostino, Yr.7 was the 12 yrs Age Champion.

The relay teams then competed at the Sydney North Regional Swim Carnival at Homebush. All the girls swam their best times and represented the school and zone with pride. Congratulations to the 12 Yrs 4 x 50m Relay team who then went on to race at the CHS Swim Carnival. These girls were very unlucky to not continue on to the All Schools Swim Meet. I am sure that Olivia D’Agostino, India Allen, Taylor Parsons and Samantha Kotsakis will reach this level again in 2014. Eun Jee Cho of Yr.10 and Olivia, Yr.7 also competed at the CHS Meet in individual events and Olivia was successful in 50m and 100m Freestyle and raced at the All Schools Meet. It is wonderful to see swimming alive and well at BGHS.

**CROSS-COUNTRY**

After a false start due to pouring rain, the School Cross-Country run was eventually held at Blair Park.

A hotly contested event, the girls raced hard and fast to secure a place in the team that would run at Cintra Park in the Northern Suburbs Zone Cross-Country. In the fog and mud the girls raced at Zone and smashed their competitors in every age group. Congratulations to the following girls who are at the Sydney North Regional Cross-Country in Gosford 13 June - Angelina Agamemonos, Taylor Parsons, Caieta Correa-Yang, Santina Wang Tori Tumeth, Georgia Giamos, Bronte Powell, Lauren Patterson, Shayla Pham, Mia Evans Norris, Allegra Short, April Rose Derebe-Desalegn, Rika Kelso, Riley Michelmore, Nina Pearson, Hannah Tansey & Georgia Valis. We wish them all the best.

**ATHLETICS**

We had a little rain to start the day out at the BGHS Athletics Carnival at Homebush but the wet certainly cleared up and became perfect running conditions. All events were supported well by the students and Year 12 all
looked fantastic in their fancy dress. Congratulations to all winners but especially to **YORRELL who won** the carnival this year. Again, a big thank you to all teachers, house patrons and house captains for making the day a success.

The students going to the Northern Suburbs Zone Athletics Carnival on Thursday 20 June need to obtain a note from the PE Staffroom and return it there ASAP.

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS SEMESTER:**
- Olivia D’Agostino, Yr.7 - All Schools Swim Meet
- Eun Jee Cho, Yr.10 - CHS Swimming
- 12 yrs 4x50m age relay - CHS Swimming
- Bella Kil, Yr.7 - CHS Golf
- Tamara Ambrose, Yr.11 - All Schools Diving
- Opens Netball team - quarter finals
- Kayla Rogers and Shania Mitchell, Yr.9 - State Knockout
- Sydney North Regional Water Polo team
- Opens Futsal team - Regional Champions

Yours in Sport, Jan Gianotti, Carnival Coordinator

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**BEP NEWS**

It’s been a busy month!

A big CONGRATULATIONS to the **Brass Ensemble** who, conducted by Elina Suuronen, **won the mixed ensembles section of the Sydney Eisteddfod** (pictured). This is a prestigious competition and is a tribute to their hard work and musicianship this year. The **Senior Concert Band**, conducted by Evan Guy, contributed beautifully to the Premium Concert Band section of the Sydney Eisteddfod two weeks later (see video on school website [http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/extracurricular/bep](http://web3.burwoodg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/extracurricular/bep)).

The **Bunnings BBQ** fundraiser was a great success with many girls and parents contributing to a busy and profitable day. It was lovely to get the chance for a chat too! Thank you to all who contributed their time and energy to support the BEP.

All ensembles performed so well for **Variety Night**, the school fundraiser. Special mention is deserved by **Training Ensemble** for their fantastic “conductor-less” first performance ever. All Training Ensemble members have moved up to Concert Band and String Ensemble – a big and challenging move, but exciting.

The **Senior Concert Band tour to Forster-Tuncurry** was a great success. We have had many appreciative reports from the schools where the girls performed and a great time was had by all.

**Some changes and important dates for your diary:**
- Concert Band Tour – has been moved to the last three days of Term 3, 18 – 20 September
- Inner West Festival has been moved to Sunday 24 November
- SCB and the Clarinet Ensemble will play for the Rotary Dinner on the evening of 22 July
- Wednesday 19 June, St Peter’s Lutheran College Symphonic Wind Ensemble is visiting to perform a concert for the BEP from 2:00 – 3.15 pm and will do a workshop with the SCB until 4.30 pm
- Concert Band will play for the Blue and Gold assembly on 24 June

**DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION (DER)**

As part of the DER laptop program, student laptops need to go through stocktake as well. **Stocktake for Year 11 and Year 12 laptops** took place on the 7 June.

Students who regularly use their laptops had the network electronically sign the device off as sighted. For those who do not use their laptop regularly or have other issues with their device, it meant that the network did not electronically recognise their device as being valid and they ran the risk of their laptop being "frozen" out of the network when it came to updates or even validation as being a genuine Windows machine.

The students all had to present their laptops, whether they were working or not, to the Technology Support Officer, Mr Kaing and the Technology Coordinator, Ms Diakos and the devices were signed off.

Well done to the majority of students who did present their laptops – updating will be facilitated on those devices. Students who did not present their devices have been instructed they are to do so before the end of term or their devices will be frozen.

**Fiona Diakos, Computer Coordinator**
P&C MEETING, WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 June in the Library at 7:15 pm. All parents welcome. Light refreshments available at 7:00 pm. Mr Hegedus, Careers Adviser, will give a short talk on “The Career Voyage” for Years 9 & 10 and we will also discuss improvements to the school grounds. We look forward to seeing you.

Alice Magoffin, P&C President

Minutes of previous meetings are available on the school’s website along with information about the P&C:

P&C UNIFORM SHOP
Everything is in stock – we have plenty of blazers, jackets and jumpers now for the cold weather, so come on down!

The Uniform Shop’s days and hours each week:
- Tuesday, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm
- Thursday, 1:10 pm – 2:30 pm

Students may only visit the Uniform Shop before school, recess & lunchtime during opening hours.

Parents may visit any time during opening hours. Any enquiries, please call the school on 9747 3355.

Elaine Browne, Manager, P&C Uniform Shop

HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR BGHS
Pre-order an Entertainment™ Book to receive over $180 in additional offers (while stocks last). 20% from every Entertainment™ Book we sell will go towards our fundraising, and your support is greatly appreciated. Choose from three editions of the 2013/2014 Entertainment™ Books: Sydney, Sydney North and Sydney Greater West.

Entertainment™ Books are packed with hundreds of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for the best restaurants, cafes, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and much more!

Available from early-April, the new Book is only $65 and you’ll receive $15,000 worth of valuable offers which are valid until 1 June 2014. Books will be dispatched within 7 days of receiving your order.

If you have any queries, please email Lynne Openshaw, Maths Faculty on lynne.openshaw@det.nsw.edu.au.

Visit www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/207h841 for more information or to place an order.

NEW DISTRIBUTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR EVENT
We hope you like the new look Event. As a conservation initiative, Event will no longer be printed.

As each issue is posted on the school web site, an SMS will be sent to parents to advise them that the latest issue is available to view on-line at http://web3.burwoodg.h.schools.nsw.edu.au/news-events/newsletters. Students will be notified via the Daily Announcements.

Parents who do not have access to a computer may ask their daughter to obtain a printed copy from the front office. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

PHOTO GALLERY

Year 12 Advanced English inspired by The Great Gatsby

Part of our winning Brass Ensemble

Year 7 studying classification at Taronga Zoo

Year 8 STARR Day activity
Dear Parent/Caregiver,

As you are aware, I am a passionate advocate of public education, especially of our school. I support the Gonski Review and the subsequent findings of that expert committee. I was thrilled to hear the announcement by the Premier of NSW, Barry O’Farrell when he became the first State leader to announce his support for the Federal government proposal to implement a ‘National Plan for School Improvement’, for all schools and all students. I have been further buoyed by the news that legislation has been passed by the House of Representatives to make this momentous plan a reality.

However, our fight for fairness and equity is not over. The 27th June is the last sitting day of Federal parliament. If all of the States have not signed up to this agreement, Leader of the Opposition, Tony Abbott and Christopher Pyne, Shadow Education Minister, have said that they will not support nor honour this deal, should they be elected. This will mean that our children will not be the recipients of an increase in funding, nor will future generations be the beneficiaries of a new funding formula that will enshrine fairness in public school funding into legislation. I cannot see another opportunity for this much needed change in the remainder of my professional life. Please, if you have not already done so, go to the Gonski website at http://igiveagonski.com.au/ and make your voice heard.

This is what the plan will mean to you and our girls at Burwood Girls High School:

- The Plan will resource properly all schools, teachers and students for generations to come.
- It means fairer funding.
- Each student in every school will receive a base-rate loading which will be integrated into school funding, permanently and indexed to keep up with the cost of schooling.
- Schools and principals will no longer be reliant on special, time limited programs, which in the case of Burwood Girls High School, we rarely receive.

Schools in New South Wales will get $5 billion extra, starting to flow in the next school year. Over time, this additional money will allow me to hire additional staff to support special programs; invest in technology for the future; invest additional resources into the professional learning of staff; and so much more.

**Some facts about The Schooling Resource Standard**

Under the new Schooling Resource Standard there will be a base amount of $9,271 per primary school student and $12,193 per high school student. (We currently have 1140 students at Burwood Girls High School.)

There will also be extra money each year, through ‘loadings’ for students and schools that need more support. This includes:

- A low socio-economic status loading—ranging from $695 per primary student and $914 per secondary student to $4,635 per primary student and $6,096 per secondary student.
- Indigenous loading—ranging from $1,854 per primary student and $2,439 per secondary student to $11,125 per primary student and $14,631 per secondary student.
- Students with limited English skills loading—set at 10 per cent of the per student amounts.
- A location loading—applied to each school’s per student Schooling Resource Standard amounts plus any school size amount. This will range from 10 per cent of the loading amount for inner regional schools up to 80 per cent of the loading amount for some very remote schools.
- Size loading—ranging from $150,000 for primary schools with up to 200 students, to $240,000 for secondary schools with up to 500 students.
- A loading for students with disability. This loading will be phased in from 2015 once a nationally consistent data collection on students with disability has been established. In the meantime an interim loading has been calculated, and funding under the More Support for Students with Disability National Partnership will be extended by an extra $100 million in 2014.

What higher priority can a government have than ensuring the future security of our children? An excellent education generates a nation’s wealth and removes inequality. When education systems fail to invest fairly in opportunities for all children regardless of their economic circumstances, gender and location, entrenched generational poverty occurs. Our government currently spends less than the OECD average on education – less than Mexico. This is not a situation about which we should feel any pride. It is time to act.

If you would like more information about the ‘National Plan for School Improvement’ go to http://www.betterschools.gov.au/. The website provides more information, including fact sheets.

I am excited by the possibility of additional funding for our school. My only purpose in drawing your attention to this issue is so that our children are the beneficiaries of great reform. My only concern is for the future of our great public education system which has and will continue to achieve so much for our children. The ‘National Plan for School Improvement’ will enable us to achieve so much more.

Yours sincerely

Mia Kumar, Principal
Burwood Girls High School
14 June 2013